

## RISING SUN MASONIC LODGE.

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FEBRUARY 26, 1889.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. LAWLER, from the Committee on War Claims, submitted the following

### REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 43.]

The Committee on War Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 43) to refer the claim against the United States of the trustees of the Rising Sun Masonic Lodge, No. 29, of Decatur, Ala., to the Court of Claims, have had the same under consideration, and find that the buildings belonging to the said masonic lodge, and used by the members thereof as a place of meeting, was, as a matter of fact, destroyed by the Federal forces during the late war between the States, 1861-1865.

The committee are clearly of the opinion that the facts and circumstances connected with or attendant upon the destruction of said masonic lodge can be determined only by a judicial tribunal, duly empowered to investigate and determine said facts and circumstances, and there being no other tribunal which can pronounce upon said facts and circumstances, other than the Court of Claims, the committee report the bill back with the recommendation that it do pass.